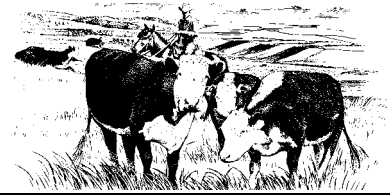


California Livestock Review



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NATIONAL LIVESTOCK REPORTS RELEASE DATES

3:00 P.M. ET

Apr. 16 Cattle on Feed	May 21 Cattle on Feed
20 Cold Storage	Cold Storage
23 Livestock Slaughter	Livestock Slaughter

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 385 thousand head on March 1, 1999, the same as last month, but 3 percent above March 1998. During February, placements of 45.0 thousand head were 50 percent above the El Nino reduced placements of a year ago. Marketings of 40.0 thousand head were 11 percent below February 1998. Other disappearance totaled 5.00 thousand head.

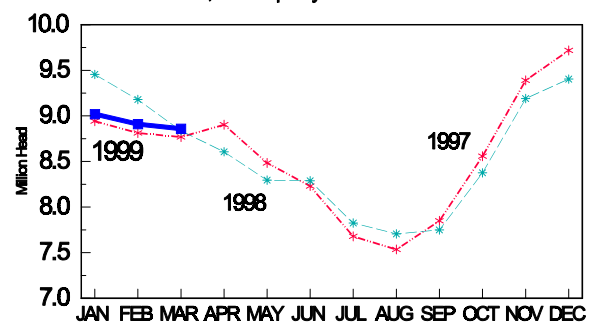
CATTLE ON FEED UP SLIGHTLY IN HISTORIC SEVEN STATES

Cattle on feed in historic seven-states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 8.86 million on March 1, 1999, up slightly from the previous year and 1 percent above March 1, 1997. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.54 million, 20 percent above 1998, but 1 percent below 1997. Marketings during February totaled 1.55 million, 2 percent below 1998 and slightly below 1997. Other disappearance during February was 42.0 thousand head, 25 percent below 1998, but the same as 1997.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP SLIGHTLY

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 10.40 million head on March 1, 1999. The inventory was up slightly from the 10.38 million head on March 1, 1998 and 1 percent above March 1, 1997. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.79 million, 20 percent above 1998, but 1 percent below 1997. Net placements were 1.72 million. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 333 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 492 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 596 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 367 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.82 million, 1 percent below 1998, but 1 percent above 1997. Other disappearance totaled 65.0 thousand during February, 6 percent below 1998, but 7 percent above 1997.

7 STATE CATTLE ON FEED INVENTORY
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots



NUMBER OF CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SEVEN SELECTED STATES

State	Number on feed February 1 a/			Placed During February		Marketed During February	
	1998	1999 b/	1999/1998	1998	1999	1998	1999
	1,000 Head						
Arizona	220	202	92	28	27	18	25
California	395	385	97	30	45	45	40
Colorado	1,100	1,140	104	205	235	265	240
Iowa	365	350	96	27	46	41	45
Kansas	2,190	2,020	92	360	380	420	370
Nebraska	2,150	2,150	100	330	410	350	390
Texas	2,760	2,660	96	310	400	440	440
Seven-State Total	9,180	8,907	97	1,290	1,543	1,579	1,550
State	Other Disappearance During February c/		Number on Feed March 1		1999/1998		
	1998	1999	1998	1999			
	1,000 Head				Percent		
Arizona	10	1	220	203	92		
California	5	5	375	385	103		
Colorado	10	5	1,030	1,130	110		
Iowa	1	1	350	350	100		
Kansas	10	10	2,120	2,020	95		
Nebraska	10	10	2,120	2,160	102		
Texas	10	10	2,620	2,610	100		
Seven-State Total	56	42	8,835	8,858	100		

a/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

b/ Texas data revised.

c/ Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding

WOOL PRODUCTION

Shorn wool production in California during 1998 was 3.60 million pounds, down 5 percent from 1997. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 480 thousand head, an increase of 2 percent from 1997. The average price

paid for wool sold in 1998 was \$0.61 per pound for a total value of \$2.20 million, down 27 percent from \$3.00 million in 1997.

WOOL PRODUCTION AND VALUE, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

State	Sheep Shorn		Weight Per Fleece		Production		Price Per Pound		Value ^{1/}	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	1,000 Head		Lbs.		1,000 Lbs.		Dollars		\$1,000	
California	470.0	480.0	8.1	7.5	3,800	3,600	0.79	0.61	3,002	2,196
Colorado	600.0	490.0	6.6	6.9	3,936	3,364	0.89	0.53	3,503	1,783
Iowa	260.0	240.0	6.0	6.0	1,550	1,440	0.42	0.26	651	374
Montana	387.0	367.0	9.4	9.3	3,632	3,423	1.01	0.78	3,668	2,670
New Mexico	280.0	265.0	9.1	9.0	2,556	2,379	1.07	0.89	2,735	2,117
Oregon	290.0	210.0	6.5	6.6	1,880	1,380	0.61	0.48	1,147	662
South Dakota	390.0	355.0	8.5	8.3	3,302	2,950	0.90	0.59	2,972	1,741
Texas	1,500.0	1,300.0	7.3	7.1	10,950	9,230	1.06	0.63	11,607	5,815
Utah	344.0	337.0	9.3	9.4	3,213	3,157	0.75	0.62	2,410	1,957
Wyoming	650.0	650.0	8.8	8.5	5,690	5,540	0.98	0.77	5,576	4,266
UNITED STATES	6,959.9	6,426.1	7.7	7.7	53,578	49,239	0.84	0.60	44,909	29,406

^{1/} Production multiplied by marketing-year average price for individual states. U.S. value is the summation of state values.

U.S. EQUINE INVENTORY UP 1.3 PERCENT

Inventory of equine in the United States as of January 1, 1999 totaled 5.32 million head, up 1.3 percent from the 5.25 million head on January 1, 1998. Equine includes horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys. Texas ranked first in equine inventory with 600 thousand head, followed by California and Tennessee with 240 thousand and 190 thousand head, respectively.

The January 1, 1998 total equine inventory was 5.25 million head. Equine located on farms totaled 3.20 million head, while equine located on non-farms were 2.05 million head or 39.1 percent of the total. Equine sold totaled 558 thousand head in 1998, an increase of 3.3 percent from the 540 thousand head sold in 1997. Value of sales from equine sold in 1998 was \$1.75 billion, up 6.9 percent from the \$1.64 billion in 1997.

EQUINE INVENTORY, NUMBER SOLD, AND VALUE OF SALES FOR SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

State	Inventory		Number Sold		Value of Sales	
	Jan. 1, 1998	Jan. 1, 1999	1997	1998	1997	1998
	1,000 Head				\$1,000	
Arizona	135.0	135.0	7.0	8.0	14,000	15,000
California	235.0	240.0	15.0	17.0	55,000	60,000
Idaho	145.0	145.0	11.0	12.0	14,500	15,000
Nevada	70.0	70.0	7.0	7.0	10,500	10,000
Oregon	120.0	120.0	11.0	10.0	15,000	14,000
Tennessee	185.0	190.0	19.0	18.0	49,400	48,600
Texas	595.0	600.0	58.0	60.0	86,000	90,000
U.S.	5,250.4	5,317.4	539.6	557.6	1,641,196	1,753,996

^{1/} Production multiplied by marketing-year average price for individual states. U.S. value is the summation of state values.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS FOR CALIFORNIA AND U.S. ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		February 1998	January 1999	Feb. 15, 1999	February 1998	January 1999	Feb. 15, 1999
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled ^{2/}	Ton	123.00	78.00	97.00	96.10	78.80	79.00
Alfalfa, Baled ^{2/}	Ton	125.00	79.00	102.00	105.00	81.40	82.00
Hogs ^{3/} ^{4/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	35.90	26.30	28.10
Cows ^{3/}	Cwt.	33.50	33.50	34.60	36.00	33.40	34.60
Steers and Heifers ^{3/}	Cwt.	63.50	61.50	62.50	63.30	62.20	63.20
Calves ^{3/}	Cwt.	74.00	77.50	81.00	88.70	83.20	87.30
Sheep ^{3/}	Cwt.	33.00	28.50	30.00	39.60	32.40	---
Lambs ^{3/}	Cwt.	78.00	68.00	68.50	75.00	68.20	---
Milk Cows ^{5/}	Head	---	1,340.00	---	---	1,250.00	---
Milk Whsle. ^{3/}	Cwt.	13.70	16.20	15.50	14.70	17.40	16.00

^{1/} The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

^{2/} California prices for January 1999 include a larger than normal percentage of lower quality hay sales.

^{3/} Previous month revised to monthly average.

^{4/} Price includes barrows, gilts, and sows.

^{5/} Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California production of red meat during February 1999 totaled 80.9 million pounds (dressed weight), 9 percent below last month, but 2 percent above February 1998. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In February 1999, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,270 pounds; calves, 125 pounds; and hogs, 211 pounds.

U.S. RED MEAT AND PORK PRODUCTION SET RECORD HIGHS FOR FEBRUARY

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.54 billion pounds in February, up 2 percent from the 3.48 billion pounds produced in February 1998 and slightly higher than the previous record high for February set in 1996. Both February 1998 and 1999 had 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.00 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 1 percent from 1998. The average live weight was up 17 pounds from the previous year to 1,221 pounds.

Veal production totaled 17.0 million pounds, 19 percent below the record low set in February 1998. Calf slaughter totaled 100 thousand head, down 12 percent from February 1998. The average live weight, at 286 pounds, was 22 pounds below last year.

Pork production totaled 1.50 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the record high set in February 1998. Hog kill totaled 7.90 million head, 3 percent above 1998. The average live weight, at 259 pounds, was 1 pound above last year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 20.0 million pounds, was down 4 percent from record lows set in February 1979, 1997, and 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 299 thousand head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, down 2 pounds from February 1998.

January-February red meat production was 7.4 billion pounds, 1 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated production was as follows: beef, up 1 percent; veal, down 23 percent; pork, up 1 percent; lamb and mutton, down 9 percent.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, FEBRUARY 1998-99 1/

Species & Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	1,000 Head		1,000 Lbs.		Lbs.	
CATTLE						
California	78.8	74.0	97,886	93,936	1,243	1,270
U.S. Total	2,746.8	2,721.8	3,307,625	3,322,976	1,204	1,221
CALVES						
California	16.7	14.0	4,002	1,759	240	125
U.S. Total	113.0	99.7	34,866	28,499	308	286
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	308.5	298.9	42,269	40,431	137	135
HOGS						
California	155.1	187.0	33,313	39,416	215	211
U.S. Total	7,711.5	7,904.8	1,987,379	2,043,962	258	259
RED MEAT	February 1998	January 1999	February 1999 2/	Feb. 99 Feb. 98	Feb. 99 Jan. 99	
	Million Lbs.		Percent			
California	79.4	89.1	80.9	102	91	
U.S. Total	3,476.2	3,832.3	3,535.3	102	92	

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal-inspection and other commercial slaughter, but excludes farm slaughter.

2/ U.S. total revised.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION IN 1998

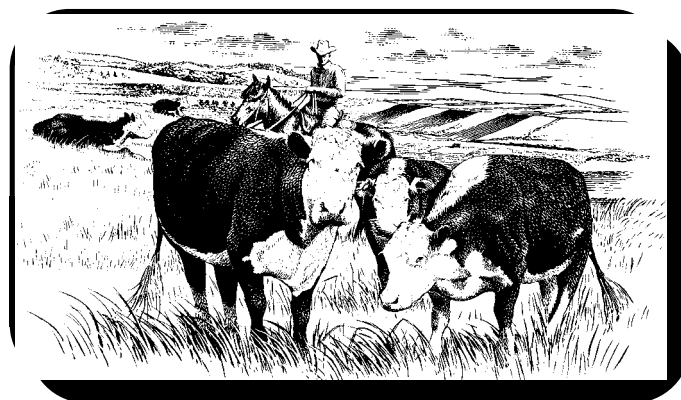
California production of red meat during 1998 totaled 1.04 billion pounds, fractionally above last year's production of 1.04 billion pounds. The month of September 1998 had the largest red meat production with 92.5 million pounds.

Red meat production in commercial plants and on farms for the United States totaled 45.3 billion pounds in 1998. This was 4 percent higher than both last year's production and the previous record high set in 1995. Red meat production in commercial plants totaled 45.1 billion pounds.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION BY MONTH, CALIFORNIA AND U.S. 1/

Month	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
	1997	1998	1997	1998
	Million Lbs.			
January	93.2	90.1	3,733.0	3,835.6
February	76.8	79.4	3,275.8	3,476.3
March	84.2	83.1	3,441.4	3,725.9
April	86.0	83.4	3,591.5	3,701.1
May	84.3	80.3	3,568.4	3,580.1
June	83.6	86.5	3,491.6	3,731.9
July	87.5	87.9	3,657.3	3,781.2
August	84.6	88.6	3,617.7	3,769.5
September	85.7	92.5	3,664.4	3,828.4
October	93.5	92.4	4,002.7	4,034.8
November	81.7	87.5	3,450.3	3,724.7
December	95.0	91.6	3,714.1	3,943.7
TOTAL	1,036.2	1,043.2	43,208.1	45,133.1

1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton, but excludes farm slaughter.



MARKETING-YEAR AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
		1997	1998	1997	1998
		Dollars			
Hogs	Cwt.	54.70	34.00	52.90	34.40
Cows 1/	Cwt.	33.10	32.90	34.80	33.70
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	63.10	61.50	66.80	62.80
Calves	Cwt.	68.10	70.90	78.90	78.80
Sheep	Cwt.	33.80	30.50	37.90	30.60
Lambs	Cwt.	91.60	74.80	90.30	72.30
Milk Cows	Head	1,240.00	1,270.00	1,100.00	1,120.00

1/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

CALIFORNIA HONEY PRODUCTION UP 19 PERCENT

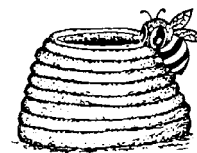
California's 1998 honey production, at 37.4 million pounds, was 19 percent above 1997. Producing colonies totaled 450 thousand, up 7 percent from the previous year. Yield per colony averaged 83 pounds, compared to 75 pounds produced per colony in 1997.

U.S. HONEY PRODUCTION UP 12 PERCENT

Honey production in 1998 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 220 million pounds, up 12 percent from 1997. Colonies producing honey in 1998 totaled 2.63 million, up slightly from 1997. The average yield per colony was 83.7 pounds, up 9 pounds from the 74.7 pounds in 1997. Colonies that produced in more than one state were counted in each state and, therefore, yields per colony may be understated. Colonies were not counted if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 80.8 million pounds on December 15, 1998, up 14 percent from a year earlier.

HONEY PRICES DOWN 13 PERCENT

Prices for the 1998 crop averaged 65.5 cents per pound, down 13 percent from 75.2 cents in 1997. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and co-ops. At the State level, prices reflect the portions of honey sold retail, co-op and private. At the U.S. level, prices for each color are derived by weighting quantities sold for each marketing channel. Co-op and private prices were lower for all color classes in 1998.



HONEY PRODUCTION FOR TOP FIVE STATES AND U.S. ^{1/}

State	Number of Colonies		Yield Per Colony		Production		Average Price Per Pound ^{2/}		Value of Production	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	1,000		Lbs.		1,000 Lbs.		Cents		\$1,000	
California	420	450	75	83	31,500	37,350	70	62	22,050	23,157
Florida	240	230	67	98	16,080	22,540	73	64	11,738	14,426
Minnesota	145	140	73	79	10,585	11,060	74	65	7,833	7,189
N. Dakota	245	230	100	128	24,500	29,440	74	63	18,130	18,547
S. Dakota	240	225	65	95	15,600	21,375	74	64	11,544	13,680
U.S. ^{3/}	2,631	2,633	75	84	196,536	220,311	75	66	147,795	144,304

^{1/} For producers with five or more colonies.

^{2/} Prices weighted by sales.

^{3/} Beginning in 1998, U.S. total production is the sum of state production. U.S. colonies multiplied by U.S. yield may not exactly equal U.S. production.